

IT'S HARD NOW TO MAKE GOOD

Recruits These Days Have
Tough Jobs Compared to
"Rookies" Years Ago.

MATTY AN EXAMPLE

"Big Six" Made Miserable Showing
First Season Out—McGraw's
Small Staff Helped.

By FRANK J. MENKE.

New York, March 9.—The chances of a "rookie" making good in the majors are smaller today than they were in the other days when the clubs took only a half dozen youngsters—or a dozen at the most—to the Southern training camps.

It's the custom these days for club-owners to grab off from ten to twenty-five bushers and turn them over to the manager for try-outs during the few weeks that the training season lasts. When a manager has that many youngsters to look over, it's certain that he cannot give much time to each. Usually those he picks are the dullest-looking, and he lets go the others who do not show up well right from the jump. It's the logical thing to do, of course, but very often the flashy player flatters later, and the one who is turned back is the real star.

One of the greatest pitchers of all time made a miserable showing during his "rookie" days, and during his first season as a major. Had he been a youngster in this era he probably would have been dumped back into the bushes—to rise no more. But he lived his youth in the days when clubs didn't carry a small army of men, and his manager had time to give him a thorough try-out.

The Tale of Big Six.

The pitcher is Christy Mathewson. He joined the Giants in 1900 hereafter as a wonder, just the same way that a score of bushers are heralded each year now. Matty was given a try-out against Brooklyn in July, and he was batted out of the box. He seemed to have nothing. Twice after that he was sent to the mound—and each time he was washed.

He pitched three games in 1900—and showed nothing startling in any of them. In the spring of 1901 he was taken South, but he showed nothing flashy. There was nothing spectacular about him. Had he been forced to fight it out in these days with a lot of brilliant-looking youngsters, it is possible that he would have lost out—and gone back to the minors.

But the old-time clubs weren't overburdened with minor league talent—and every man who joined a big league club was given a chance to make good. In the next season—1902—Matty won thirteen games and lost eighteen, for an average of 419, giving him a good average of 465 for three seasons—a miserable showing.

What do you think would happen in these days to a major league pitcher who, after three seasons in fast company, averaged only 455?

As to Tyus H.

Tyus Raymond Cobb never may have become a major league star if the pres-

ent-day methods concerning "rookies" had been in force in 1905 when he joined the Tigers. The "Georgia Peach" arrived in the Tiger camp labeled a "real wonder"—but the labeling was no different than that which is applied to at least a dozen other bush leaguers. It was up to Cobb to prove himself.

In 1905 Cobb worked in 41 games. His fielding was atrocious. He had come billed as a slugger yet in 150 trips to the plate in that season, he hit safely only 36 times. His average was .240.

What do you think would happen in this day and age if a youngster hit for only .340 in his first year as a major, and fielded in a way that made it seem as if he were burlesquing the art?

But Cobb lingered. Hugh Jennings gave a lot of time and attention to him. And do you know why? Simply because Hugh's roster wasn't loaded down with a lot of high-priced minor league talent in those days. He had to pick his team from a small assortment—and therefore he could choose more deliberately—and accurately. He had a chance to study Cobb—and Cobb's possibilities.

Cobb Started Slowly.

Eddie Collins hit for only .273 in 1908 when he joined the Athletics in 1908, and he didn't seem to be able to play either short or third. But Connie kept him, simply because Connie's roster wasn't overloaded, thus giving him time to study each man thoroughly.

Jake Daubert, probably the greatest first baseman in the game today, got a chance with the Cleveland club some years ago. There were a large crowd of rookies on the roster then and LaJole, who was managing the outfit, didn't have time to watch each. Daubert rounded off slowly—took back to the bushes although he was as great a player as he is now.

Tris Speaker hit only .230 for the Red Sox in 1908—his first year in the majors. Would any major league club today keep a .230 "rookie" outfielder? But the Red Sox decided to keep Tris—and what has happened?

You remember the "Rube" Marquand case, don't you?

It's our opinion that if a manager could make his choice from a small section, and give a lot of time to watching each, he would have to do better than he does now when he has to select from a small army of youngsters—and make his decision without a chance to thoroughly investigate each applicant for a regular job.

What's yours?

IN INTEREST OF TOURNEY.

Departmental Duckpin League Will Hold Three-ball Event.

The three-ball tournament to be given by the Departmental Duckpin League, at the National Capital Bowling Alleys, 918 G street northwest, on March 15, beginning at 6 o'clock and running until midnight, promises to be a most interesting event. A number of presents have been donated by the leading merchants of Washington and these will be given in addition to substantial cash prizes for the highest scores.

W. S. Stamper, president of the Departmental League, says that he expects a large and enthusiastic crowd of Washington's best bowlers to be present and take an active part in the tournament. The proceeds after paying the prizes will be used to enter one or more teams in the A. C. B. A. Tournament.

To Train at Jersey City.

Toronto, Ont., March 9.—Manager Birmingham, of the Toronto baseball club, announced today that the Leafs would train this spring at Jersey City. The club will report on April 3.

YANKS' \$25,000 BEAUTY



LEE MAGEE.

Here is the first picture of Lee Magee, the former Federal Leaguer, in a Yankee uniform. The New York American club paid \$25,000 for Magee, who will shine in the outer garden.

ROCK HILL'S SCHEDULE.

Baseball Team Has Several Games Booked with Washington Clubs.

Elliot City, Md., March 9.—Rock Hill College will open its baseball season on March 29, when it entertains the St. John's College, of Annapolis, at Elliot City. Eighteen games have been listed to date, and matches with fast teams are pending for May 24 and June 7.

The schedule for the season follows: March 29—St. John's College, at Annapolis, at Elliot City.
April 1—Catholic University, at Washington, D. C.
April 5—Loyola College, at Elliot City.
April 12—Washington College, at Elliot City.
April 17—Episcopal High School, at Alexandria, Va.
April 18—Western Maryland College, at Westminster.

April 19—Delaware College, at Newark, Del.
April 20—Blue Ridge College, at Elliot City.
May 3—Delaware College, at Elliot City.
May 6—Briar Hill Military College, at Elliot City.
May 10—St. John's College, at Annapolis.
May 13—Maryland School for Deaf, at Elliot City.
May 15—Calvert Hall College, at Elliot City.
May 17—Baltimore City College, at Elliot City.
May 20—Blue Ridge College, at New Windsor.

May 24—Ponding.
May 27—Briar Hill Military College, at Poolesville, Md.
May 31—Baltimore City College, at Baltimore.
June 3—Gallatin College, at Washington, D. C.
June 7—Ponding.

Stovall Signs with Toledo.

Toledo, Ohio, March 9.—George Stovall, last year's manager of the Kansas City Federal League club, has been signed by Roger Bresnahan, owner of the Toledo American Association club. Stovall will play first base. Four other former Federal League players are also under contract. They are J. W. Rawlings, third base, Kansas City; Hugh Benditt, pitcher, Brooklyn; George Kaiserling, pitcher, Newark; and Miles Mahn, pitcher, Kansas City.

HURLERS PLAN DANCE FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

The second annual ball of the Washington Rovers' Hurling Club, will be held on March 17, St. Patrick's night, at Carroll Institute Hall, 918 Tenth street northwest. J. J. Healy, manager of the club, and D. M. Wolfe, assistant, who in years gone by were of much benefit to their respective teams across the sea, and are now the two leading lights of the Rovers' Club, are in charge of the program, and promise patrons an enjoyable evening. The program will include a prize wait, also prize for Highland Scottish.

The proceeds of the dance will go to the hurlers' fund. When the hurling game is resumed at Potomac Park the team will be notified, through The Herald, also individually.

BOXING COMMISSION APPROVES.

Willard-Moran Fight Will Come Off as Per Schedule.

New York, March 9.—The State Boxing Commission officially approved of the Willard-Moran match at a meeting in the office of the commission today. The members of the commission also took steps to ensure the public against a "blooper." It was ordered that no money was to be paid to either Willard or Moran except on the order of the commission. This decision was arrived at in a discussion in which the promoters and the backers of the bout and the commissioners participated.

Tex. Rickard, who with Sam McCracken is promoting the match, agreed to place all the money involved in the bout in the hands of a stakeholder by next Monday. The stakeholder will be selected within the next few days. It developed during the meeting that Moran was to receive \$22,500 for his part in the contest and not \$22,500 as previously reported. Willard's end of the purse, Rickard said would be \$47,500.

ST. DOMINIC'S OUT.

Battery Candidates Already Working—Remainder Next Saturday.

Under the careful tutelage of Manager Shlesinger, the battery candidates for the St. Dominic's baseball team have been working out for the past few days. The remainder of the squad is expected to report for outdoor practice Saturday at 4:30, if weather conditions are favorable. A very important meeting will be held in St. Dominic's Hall Sunday at 2 p. m. and a full attendance is requested. The management is busy arranging a schedule. All the teams desirous of games will address: Manager B. E. Shlesinger, 361 I street northwest.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

NO. 1088—TREASURY DEPARTMENT—OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY, Washington, D. C., February 19, 1916. Whereas by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "The United National Bank of Washington," in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, has complied with all the provisions of the Statute of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of banking, now, therefore, I, Thomas P. 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